Terrorists active in Punjab

1713. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reports that terrorists have again become active in Punjab in the recent past;

(b) whether Centre has sought any report from Punjab Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Certain individuals associated with some Pro-Khalistan terrorist groups have been arrested by the State Police in recent months particularly following the bomb blasts in two Cinema Halls in Delhi on 22nd May, 2005. The Central Government and the State Government have been in constant touch and are keeping a close watch on the situation in the State.

Earthquake in Sikkim and Uttaranchal

1714. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of loss of life and property suffered as a result of earthquake in Sikkim in 14th February, 2006;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a similar earthquake came in Uttaranchal on 15th February, 2006 on Indo-China border;

(c) if so, the details of loss suffered in Uttaranchal;

(d) the details of the action taken/to be taken by Government for the protection and rehabilitation of the people in both the places; and

(e) the financial and medical assistance provided so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) An earthquake of magnitude 5.7 occurred in Sikkim on 14th February, 2006 at 06 hrs 25 mins IST with its epicenter at 27.7° N/88.8° E. As per the information received from the State Government, two Army personnel lost their lives. Besides, there was damage to infrastructure which includes buildings, roads & bridges, hospitals, dispensaries, power and drinking water supply lines.